

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A road gripping assembly for removably positioning on a vehicle wheel, the vehicle wheel including a rim having a plurality of threaded bolts extending therethrough, said assembly including:
 - a hub having an inner surface, an outer surface and a peripheral edge, said hub having a plurality of apertures extending therethrough, wherein the number of apertures equals the number of threaded bolts, each of said apertures being positioned for selectively receiving one of said threaded bolts;
 - a plurality of arms each have an attached end being attached to said peripheral edge and a free end extending outwardly away from said hub;
 - a plurality of gripping members, each of said gripping members being pivotally coupled to one of said free ends such that said gripping members are selectively positionable in a stored position adjacent to a side wall of the wheel or in a gripping position abutting threads of the wheel.
2. The road gripping assembly of claim 1, wherein said plurality of arms are spaced generally equidistant from each other.
3. The road gripping assembly of claim 2, wherein said plurality of arms includes five arms.
4. The road gripping assembly of claim 3, wherein each of said arms is selectively telescoping.

5. The road gripping assembly of claim 1, wherein each of said arms is selectively telescoping.

6. The road gripping assembly of claim 1, wherein each of said arms is selectively telescoping, each of said arms including:

a first portion fixedly coupled to said hub, said first portion having a longitudinal axis radially extending outwardly from said hub, said first portion having a plurality of openings extending therethrough and orientated perpendicular to said longitudinal axis;

a second portion having a first end and a second end, said first end being positioned within a well extending into an outer end of said first portion such that a longitudinal axis of said second portion is aligned with said longitudinal axis of said first portion, said second portion being selectively positionable in a retracted position or an extended position, said second portion having at least one pair of openings extending therethrough, each of said openings in said second portion being selectively alignable with said openings in said first portion, and

a lock pin being selectively extendable through aligned pairs of said openings in said first and second portions.

7. The road gripping assembly of claim 6, wherein said plurality of arms includes at least five arms positioned generally equidistant from each other.

8. The road gripping assembly of claim 6, further including at least one protuberance being positioned on an outer surface of said second portion, said at least one protuberance being positioned within an

elongated slot positioned in an inner wall of said first portion, said slot being orientated parallel to said longitudinal axis of said first portion, said protuberance being positioned generally adjacent to said first end.

9. The road gripping assembly of claim 6, wherein a first of said openings in said second portion is positioned generally adjacent to said second end of said second portion, each of said gripping members includes:

a plate having a first side and a second side; and
a coupler being attached to said first side and being pivotally coupled to said second portion, wherein said lock pin may be extended through one of said openings in said second portion and through a cavity extending through the coupler for selectively locking said plate in said gripping position such that said first side is abutting the treads.

10. The road gripping assembly of claim 9, wherein said coupler is selectively movable between said first and second ends of said second portion.

11. The road gripping assembly of claim 10, further including an elastomeric coating being attached to and substantially covering said second side of said plate.

12. The road gripping assembly of claim 9, further including an elastomeric coating being attached to and substantially covering said second side of said plate.

13. The road gripping assembly of claim 10, wherein said plurality of arms includes at least five arms positioned generally equidistant from each other.

14. A road gripping assembly for removably positioning on a vehicle wheel, the vehicle wheel including a rim having a plurality of threaded bolts extending therethrough, said assembly including:

- a hub having an inner surface, an outer surface and a peripheral edge, said hub having a plurality of apertures extending therethrough, wherein the number of apertures equals the number of threaded bolts, each of said apertures being positioned for selectively receiving one of said threaded bolts, wherein said plurality of apertures is five apertures;
- a plurality of arms each have an attached end being attached to said peripheral edge and a free end extending outwardly away from said hub, said plurality of arms being spaced generally equidistant from each other, said plurality of arms being five arms, each of said arms being selectively telescoping and including:
 - a first portion fixedly coupled to said hub, said first portion having a longitudinal axis radially extending outwardly from said hub, said first portion having a plurality of openings extending therethrough and orientated perpendicular to said longitudinal axis;
 - a second portion having a first end and a second end, said first end being positioned within a well extending into an outer end of said first portion such that a longitudinal axis of said second portion is aligned with said longitudinal axis of said first portion, said second portion being selectively positionable in a retracted

positioned or an extended position, at least one protuberance being positioned on an outer surface of said second portion, said at least one protuberance being positioned within an elongated slot positioned in an inner wall of said first portion, said slot being orientated parallel to said longitudinal axis of said first portion, said protuberance being positioned generally adjacent to said first end, said second portion having a pair of openings extending therethrough, each of said openings in said second portion being selectively alignable with said openings in said first portion, a first of said openings in said second portion being positioned generally adjacent to said second end of said second portion;

a lock pin being selectively extendable through aligned pairs of said openings in said first and second portions;

a plurality of gripping members, each of said gripping members being pivotally coupled to one of said free ends such that said gripping members are selectively positionable in a stored position adjacent to a side wall of the wheel or in a gripping position abutting threads of the wheel, each of said gripping members including;

a plate having a first side and a second side;

a coupler being attached to said first side and being pivotally coupled to said second portion, said coupler being selectively movable between said first and second ends of said second portion, a cavity extending through said coupler, said cavity being selectively alignable with said first opening in said second portion, wherein said lock pin may be extended through said first opening in

said second portion and through said cavity for
 selectively locking said plate in said gripping position
 such that said first side is abutting the treads; and
 an elastomeric coating being attached to and substantially
 covering said second side of said plate.